

Message Text

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62

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CARACAS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 007843

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, ETRD, ENRG, VE

SUBJ: SHORT SUPPLY OF U.S. AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY

REF: CARACAS 11009

SHORTAGE EXISTS FOR MOST AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY WITH DELIVERY OF MANY ITEMS RUNNING 4 TO 15 MONTHS. MOST FACTORIES OPERATING TWO OR THREE SHIFTS A DAY, SIX DAYS A WEEK. EXTREME DEMAND BY U.S. FARMERS AS WELL AS WORLD MARKETS HAS INDUSTRY RUNNING AT CAPACITY. THIS SITUATION APPARENTLY TRUE IN EUROPE AS WELL AS U.S. MUCH EQUIPMENT SOLD TO LATIN AMERICA BY U.S. COMPANIES IS MADE IN EUROPE BY THEIR SUBSIDIARIES DUE TO THE PRODUCTION OF THE SIZES OF MACHINES REQUIRED IN LATIN AMERICA BEING MANUFACTURED ABROAD BY U.S. SUBSIDIARIES. TIGHT SUPPLY SITUATION HAS BEEN IN EFFECT SINCE MID-1972 AND WILL PROBABLY LAST THROUGH 1974 AS U.S. AND WORLD DEMAND FOR AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY REMAINS STRONG. VENEZUELAN FREEZE ON RETAIL PRICES OF FARM MACHINERY PROBABLY HAS HAD EFFECT ON TOTAL VENEZUELAN FARM MACHINERY IMPORTS. RUSH

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Message Attributes

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